

R E M A R K S

Applicants cancel claim 7. Claims 1-6 and 8-16 remain pending in the present application.

Applicants acknowledge with appreciation the Examiner's allowance of claims 1-6 and 8-16.

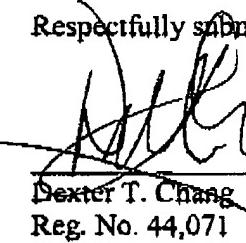
Claim 7 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,747,857 to Eda et al. Applicants cancel rejected claim 7.

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's implicit finding that the additional U.S. Patent made of record, but not applied, does not render the claims of the present application unpatentable, whether this reference is considered alone or in combination with others.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,



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